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Halina Malina  
12, Res. Les Amonts  
91 940 Les Ulis

France email: [halinamalina@yahoo.com](mailto:halinamalina@yahoo.com)  
~~halinamalina@yahoo.com~~

to Fax: 00 1 571 273 8300

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Response concerning application nr 09/936,793 from 09/21/2001 (Mr. Roy Teller)

My application nr 09/936, 793 concerns Protein modified by xanthurenic acid this short title was proposed by PCT office instead of the original title Fr 99 03791 from 26.03.99

"Preparation of drugs on the basis of immune response of proteins modified by xanthurenic acid".

This application concerns clearly proteins modified covalently by xanthurenic acid (page 1, line 7), which are used to induce an immune response against the proteins accumulated with aging. (Claim 1) Kobayashi et al. did not describe the covalently modified proteins.

Kobayashi et al. cited in your response have found the interaction between BSA and Xanthurenic acid, which was not covalent pages 2965, he said in line 7 (top)

"The secondary association may involve both electrostatic and secondary interaction".

The fact that xanthurenic acid-BSA conjugates are observed by Sephadex filtration does not mean that is covalently bound, and the authors did not claimed that the binding was covalent. Moreover, this paper does not suggest that such a protein is antigenic. The method does not propose a use of the xanthurenic- modified protein to induce an immune response, which will eliminate the modified protein (example 6). Only xanthurenic acid covalently bound (but not a complex observed by Kobayashi) can induce an immune response against the modified proteins.

My patent concerns clearly application of xanthurenic acid- modified protein to produce antibody against these proteins, which eliminates the modified protein. This is a unique invention with the big possibility of application. I was first to make this invention. Everyone skilled in the art can incubate a protein (according to all the claims) and induce an immune response to decrease the level of the modified proteins in a mammalian.

The claims explain exactly what should be done. Proposed "An antigenic compound formed by the reaction" is also good because is equivalent. However, I would like to prefer my version (published as EP 001165600) because "antigenic" is less precise: a compound is not antigenic *per se* but by an introduction into an organism vivants. It is just first preparation of antibody against the xanthurenic acid modified proteins. Conclusion:

All claims are correct, innovative and it was not any precedent art concerning this method.

Halina Malina Ph.D.

